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The latest views of
Philadelphia



THE LATEST

VIEWS OF

Philadelphia



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PHILADELPHIA

THE wealthy metropolis of the rich and prosperous industrial State of Pennsylvania is one of the trio of greatest American cities. Situated upon the left bank of the mighty Delaware, 96 miles from the Atlantic Ocean, it occupies mainly the broad plain which stretches between the Delaware and Schuylkill at this point, covering an area of 130 square miles and having a population now estimated at 2,000,000.

The city was founded by William Penn, the great Quaker, in 1682. From the beginning, it grew rapidly and in 1790 had a population of over 12,000 and was considered the leading city of the new Nation. Although Philadelphia has relinquished that position, the dominant strain of a sturdy Quaker blood has helped it to retain those purely American characteristics which so distinguish it above other cities in the United States.

The history of Philadelphia during the struggle for independence is a memorable part of the history of the country. Here the idea of a constitutional liberty was conceived which had a glorious birth in Independence Hall. It is not to be wondered at that the citizens of modern Philadelphia preserve with jealous care all the venerable buildings and other relics associated with that epoch-making period.

200

The Philadelphia of today is famous for the splendor of her public buildings and the immensity and magnificence of her great public domain, Fairmount Park. The bequests of many broad-minded and wealthy sons have enriched the opportunities of the humblest citizen beyond comparison with any other community. The large proportion of house owners among the inhabitants is noteworthy. Within the city limits are more small homes than can be found in any other great city of the world.

The Delaware has become a busy highway for the ships of all nations, and the great railroad systems which enter the city—the Pennsylvania, Reading, Baltimore and Ohio and Lehigh Valley—afford unsurpassed transportation facilities for manufactured goods, the annual production of which in Philadelphia is only exceeded by that of New York City. The churches, colleges, schools, libraries, museums, hospitals—all those influences which tend to elevate and succor mankind—are developed to the highest possible standard here, both in splendid material externals and in their practical workings.

Philadelphia, then, may be accepted today as the truest type of a self-reliant and progressive American City, a community of industrious and prosperous people filled with local pride and eager to rally to the support of any plan for the further betterment of the “Great City of Homes.”



THE CITY HALL

A massive building, covering $4\frac{1}{2}$ acres, not including the great central court and estimated to have cost over \$20,000,000 although unfinished. This grand pile of marble and granite intersects Broad and Market Streets, with passageways through the central court connecting both, and is surmounted by a tower at the northern end 550 feet high, the highest structure in the country next to the Washington Monument. A statue of William Penn crowns the tower.



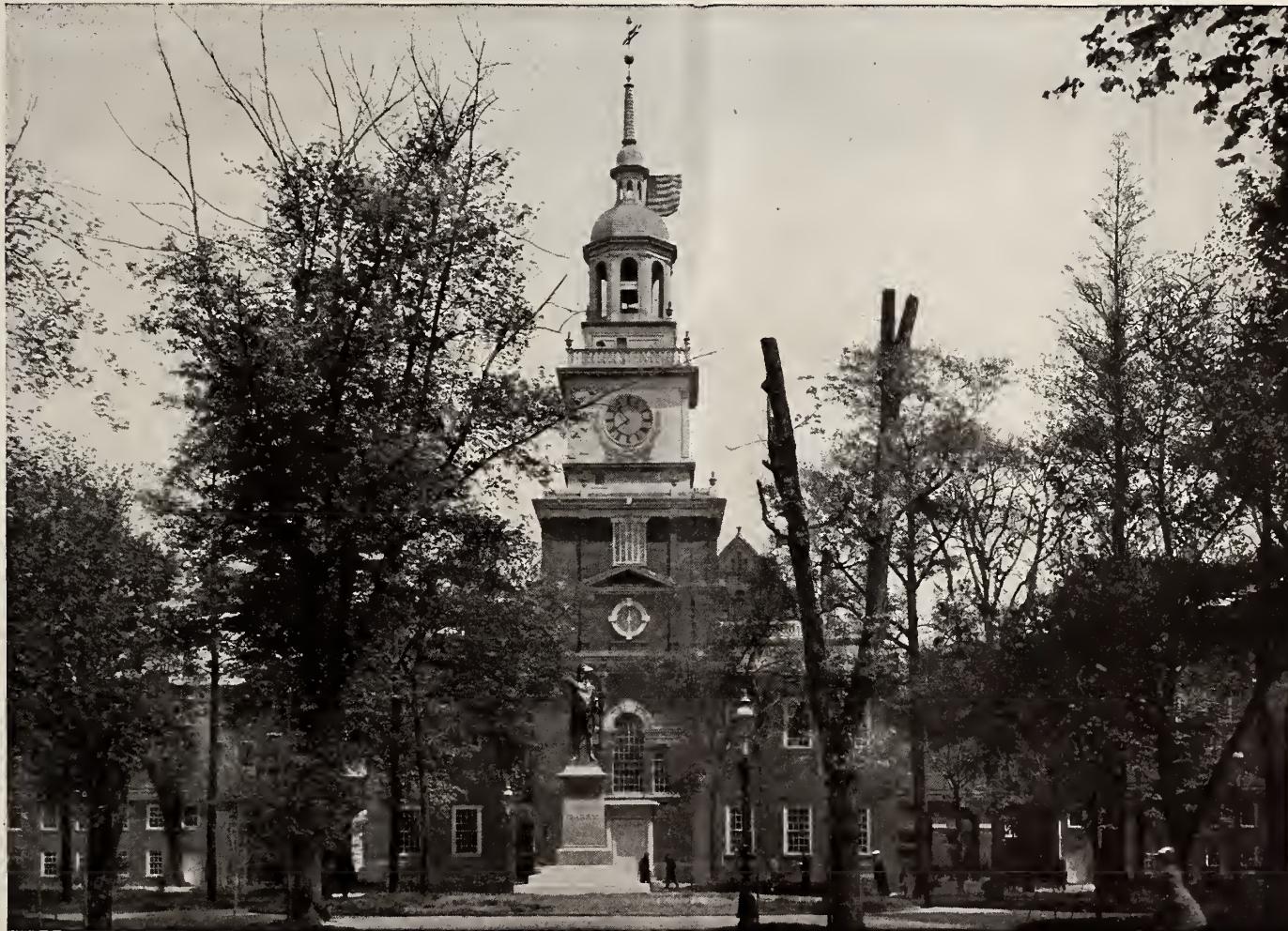
PHILADELPHIA CUSTOM HOUSE

The Custom House, located on Chestnut Street, between 4th and 5th Streets, was built in 1824. The style of architecture—pure Grecian—has survived the test of centuries, hence this structure, modeled after the Parthenon at Athens, continues to inspire the admiration of all. Philadelphia has held a leading position among the great ports of the country since the earliest Colonial times. An immense business, both export and import, is transacted in this building daily.



GIRARD TRUST CO. BUILDING

A fine specimen of modern American bank architecture. Located in striking contrast with surrounding skyscrapers on Chestnut and Broad Streets. The home of one of Philadelphia's most important financial institutions.



INDEPENDENCE HALL (Rear View)

This building was erected in 1729-35 by the Province of Pennsylvania as the Colonial State House and faces the north side of Independence Square, then the State House Yard. The Chestnut Street facade is properly the rear of the building. The interior has suffered many alterations for various purposes, but is now restored to its original condition. In front stands a statue of Commodore John Barry, erected to the memory of the first officer of the United States Navy to capture a British vessel during the Revolution.



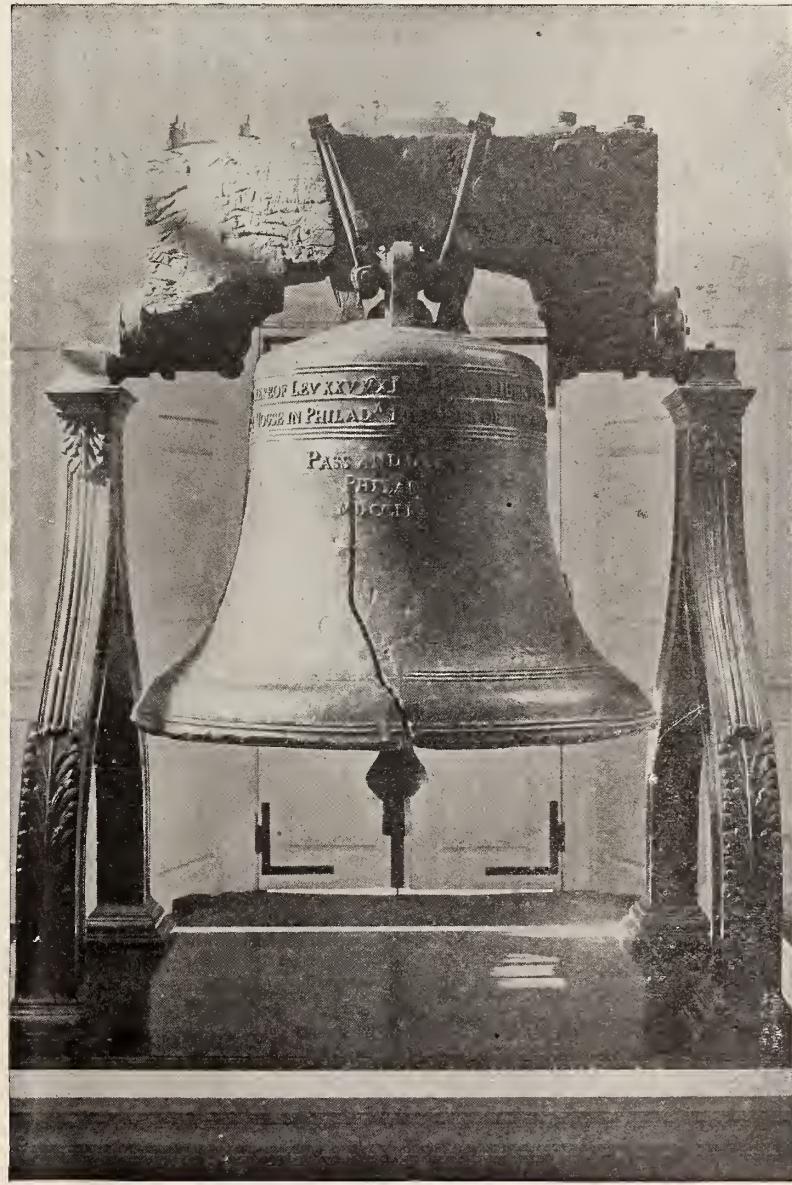
INTERIOR OF INDEPENDENCE HALL

The top view shows the Banquet Room on the upper floor. This room is adorned by a large number of portraits, some of which are famous originals. The faded charter of Pennsylvania, signed by William Penn, and many other priceless relics are preserved here. The left view shows the room in which the First National Congress met, corner 6th and Chestnut Streets. The right view is of the famous East Room, occupied by the Second Continental Congress when the Declaration of Independence was signed, July 4, 1776. A number of ancient desks and chairs are here, including the table upon which the great paper was signed.



INDEPENDENCE HALL (Front View)

Independence Hall stands on Chestnut Street between 5th and 6th Streets. In this famous building the Declaration of Independence was debated and signed. The Liberty Bell, whose tongue first announced from the tower above, the legal formation of the United States, hangs from its original beam in the main corridor of Independence Hall. While being tolled in 1835, it cracked, and has been silent since 1843. It has been taken to several of the great Fairs, but is carefully guarded at all times.



LIBERTY BELL



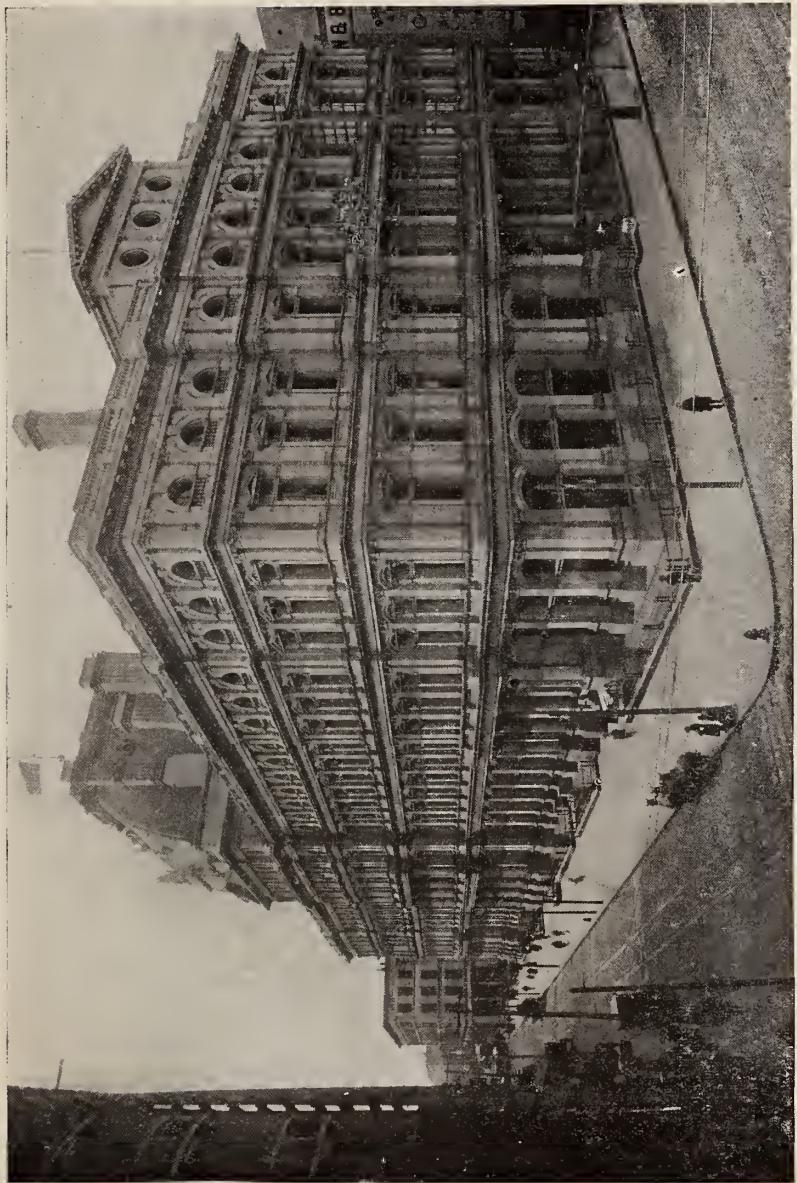
CARPENTERS' HALL

Carpenters' Hall, at the head of a court south from Chestnut Street between 3d and 4th, was erected in 1724 by the Carpenters' Company, a society of carpenters and architects. The first Continental Congress assembled here September 5, 1774. During the revolution it was used as a hospital by the Continentals. The Betsy Ross House, Arch Street, near 3d, is a quaint little building where Betsy Ross, the widow of an upholsterer, continued the business during the Revolution. Washington and a committee employed her to make a flag of thirteen stars and thirteen stripes—the first "Old Glory."



BIRTHPLACE OF THE STARS AND STRIPES

281



POST OFFICE



PENN HOUSE, FAIRMOUNT PARK
Erected in 1682; the first brick building in Philadelphia. For many years the State House of the Province of Pennsylvania. Moved to the Park from its original site on Letitia Street.



FAIRMOUNT PARK, FROM LEMON HILL

A grand pleasure ground of the people containing over 3,000 acres. It easily ranks among the few leading parks of the world, and in natural beauty and artificial embellishment cannot be equalled. Here in 1876 the Great Centennial Exposition was held and a few of the immense buildings are yet standing and in public use. A ride on the Park Trolley line affords a comprehensive idea of the vast extent of the Park territory.



PHILADELPHIA'S NEW OPERA HOUSE

The artistic home of Grand Opera in Philadelphia. Recently erected at Broad and Poplar Streets through the energy of Mr. Oscar Hammerstein in combination with the unqualified support of the lovers of high-grade music in Philadelphia. The acoustic properties of the Auditorium are far superior to those of any other Opera House on this side of the Atlantic. Here, during the Grand Opera Season may be heard the leading singers of the world.



PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD STATION

The railroad terminals in Philadelphia are unsurpassed by any other city in the country for magnificence and comfort. The Pennsylvania Station at Broad and Market Streets is a splendid Gothic structure of eleven stories of granite and brick and has one of the largest train sheds in the world. The interior devoted to the public is attractively furnished and its beauty is enhanced by two costly works of art in stucco-relief by Karl Bitter.



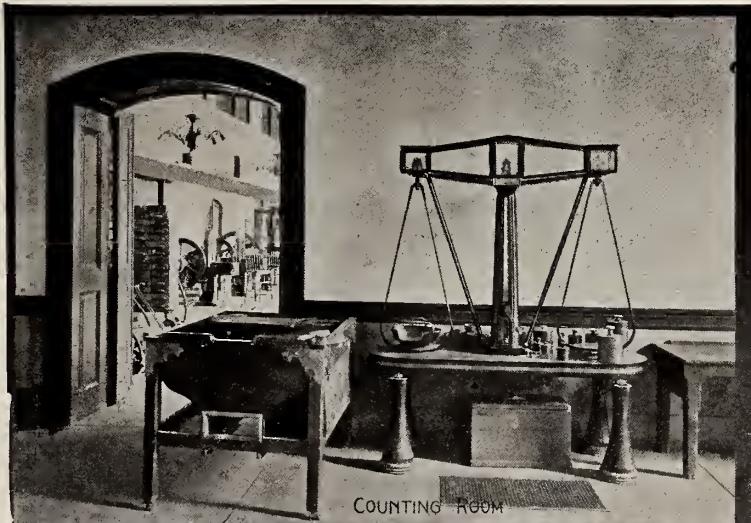
PHILADELPHIA AND READING TERMINAL

This beautiful station eight stories high, built of New England granite to the second floor and above of pink-tinted brick and white terra cotta. It has a front of 266 feet on Market Street and extends on 12th Street for 107 feet. The waiting rooms are fitted out sumptuously. The great train shed is 266 x 507 feet, and covers sixteen tracks besides the asphalted platforms.



THE NEW UNITED STATES MINT

The United States Mint, located at 17th and Spring Garden Streets, is always an object of interest to visitors. Here nearly all the coined money of the country is made. The New Mint was two years in building, and cost \$2,400,000. It is built of Maine granite and fireproof materials throughout.



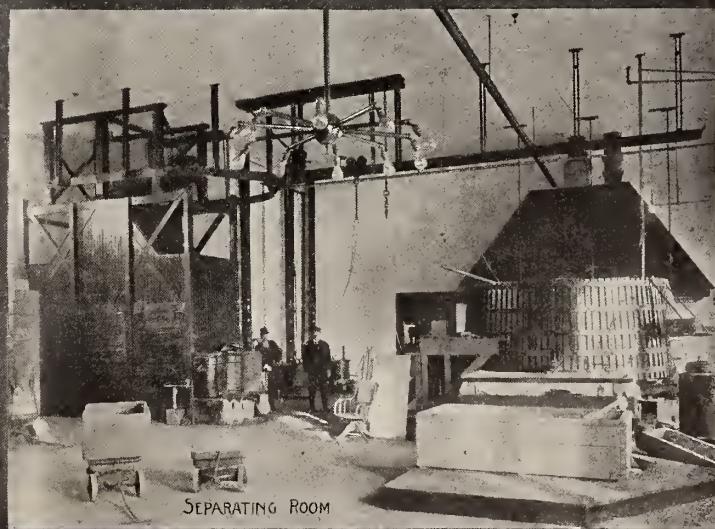
COUNTING ROOM



COINING ROOM



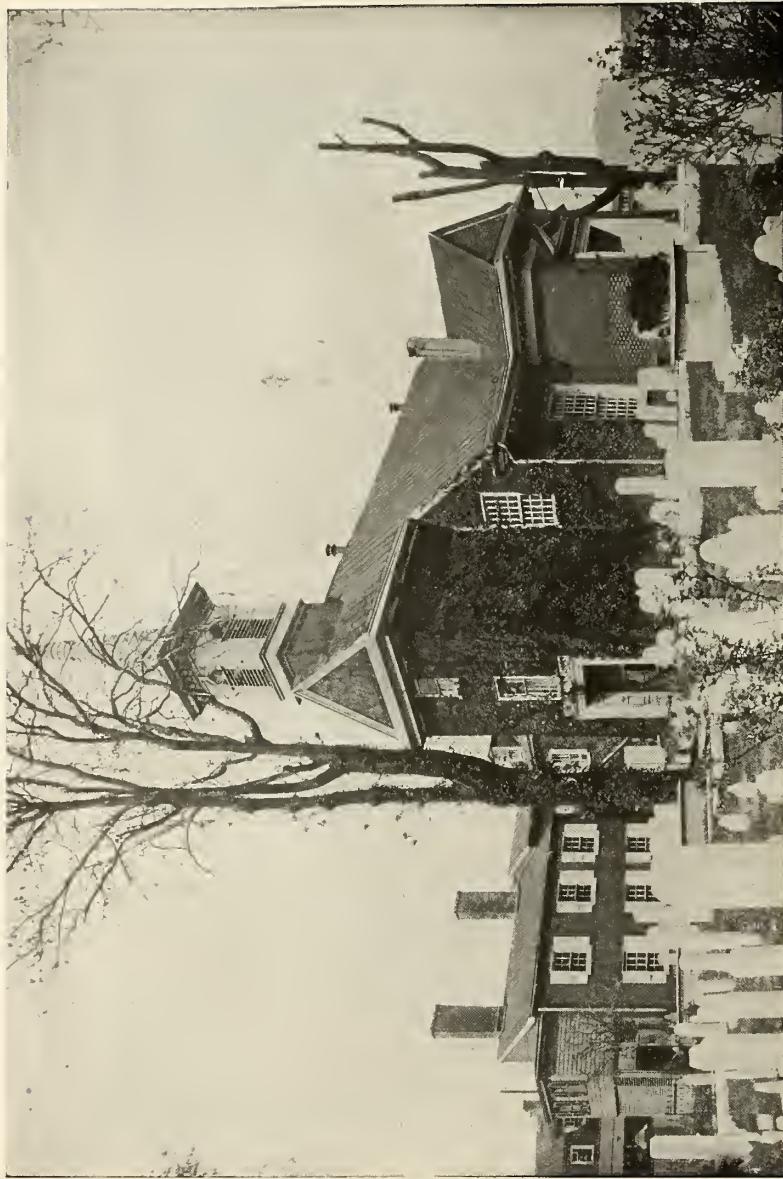
MELTING ROOM



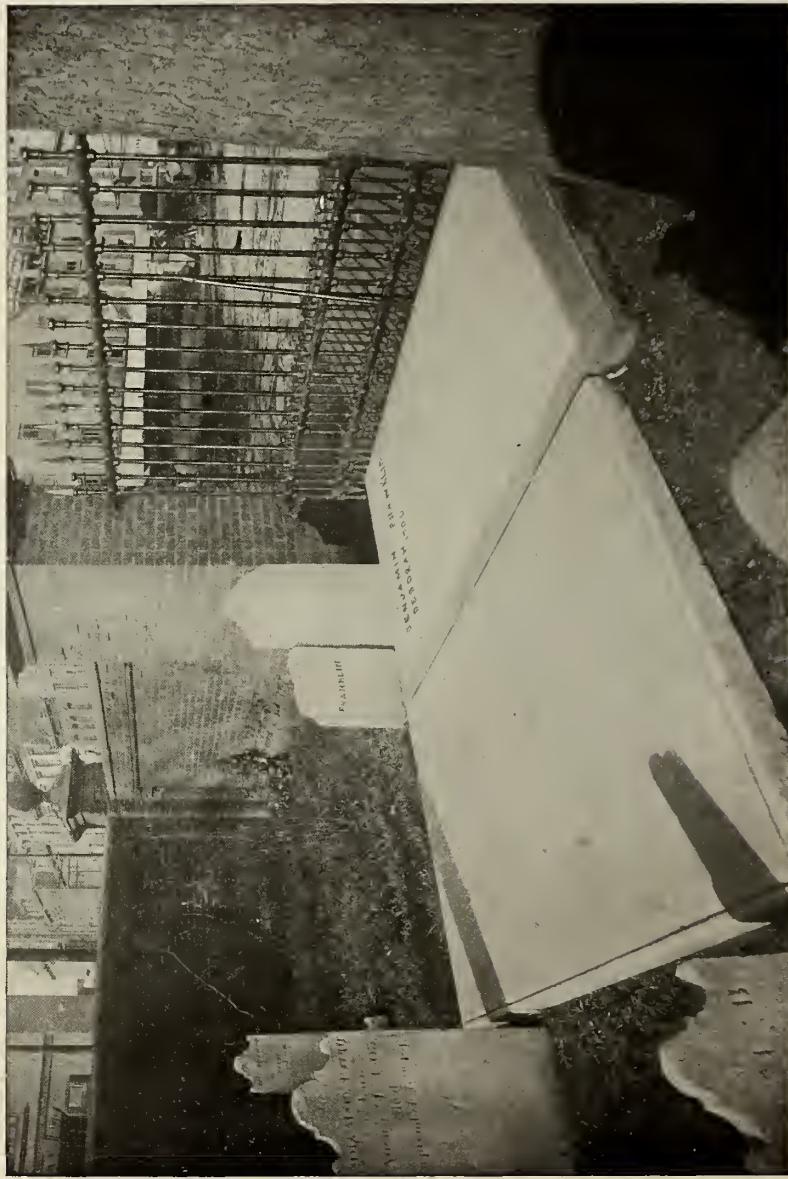
SEPARATING ROOM

INTERIOR VIEWS OF THE UNITED STATES MINT

Visitors are admitted to the interior of the Mint and escorted through the building by guides provided for the purpose. The route includes the room where the bullion is received, the melting room where the ingots are cast, the separating room, and the coining room where the coins are stamped.



OLD SWEDES CHURCH
The oldest church edifice in the city, dedicated July 1, 1700. Yet standing at Front and Christian Sts.

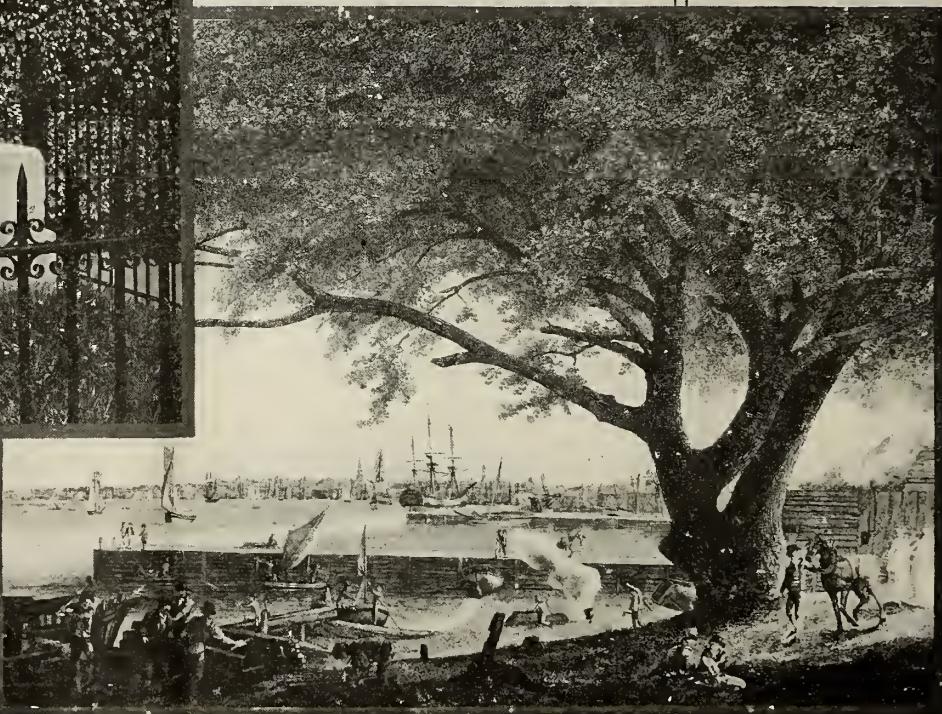


TOMB OF FRANKLIN
In Christ Church Cemetery, entrance from Arch Street. The inscription on the slab above his tomb may be read from the street.



SCENES IN FAIRMOUNT PARK

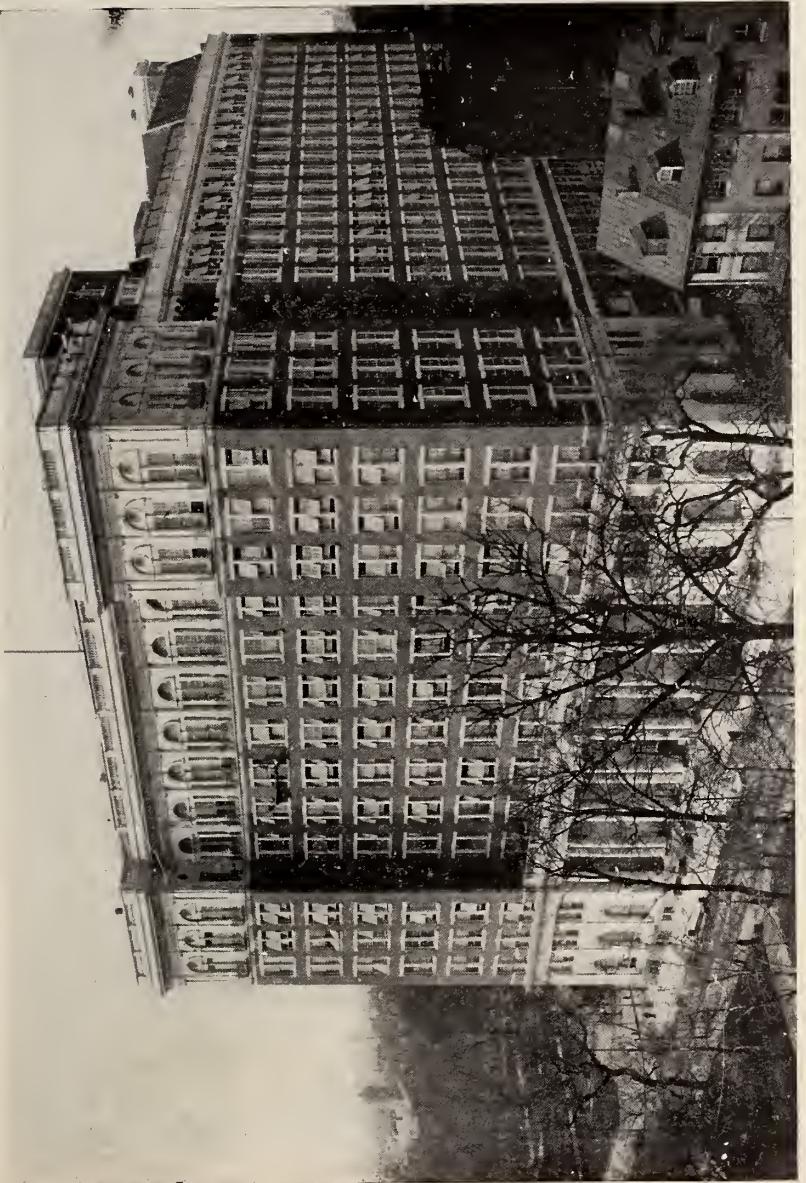
The River Drive is the most beautiful that the city affords. The Grant Cabin is the hut occupied by General Grant as winter quarters before Petersburg in 1864-65. The Garfield monument is an inspiring piece of work. Wissahickon Creek flows in winding curves for miles between high and wooded hills, frequently split into romantic gorges.



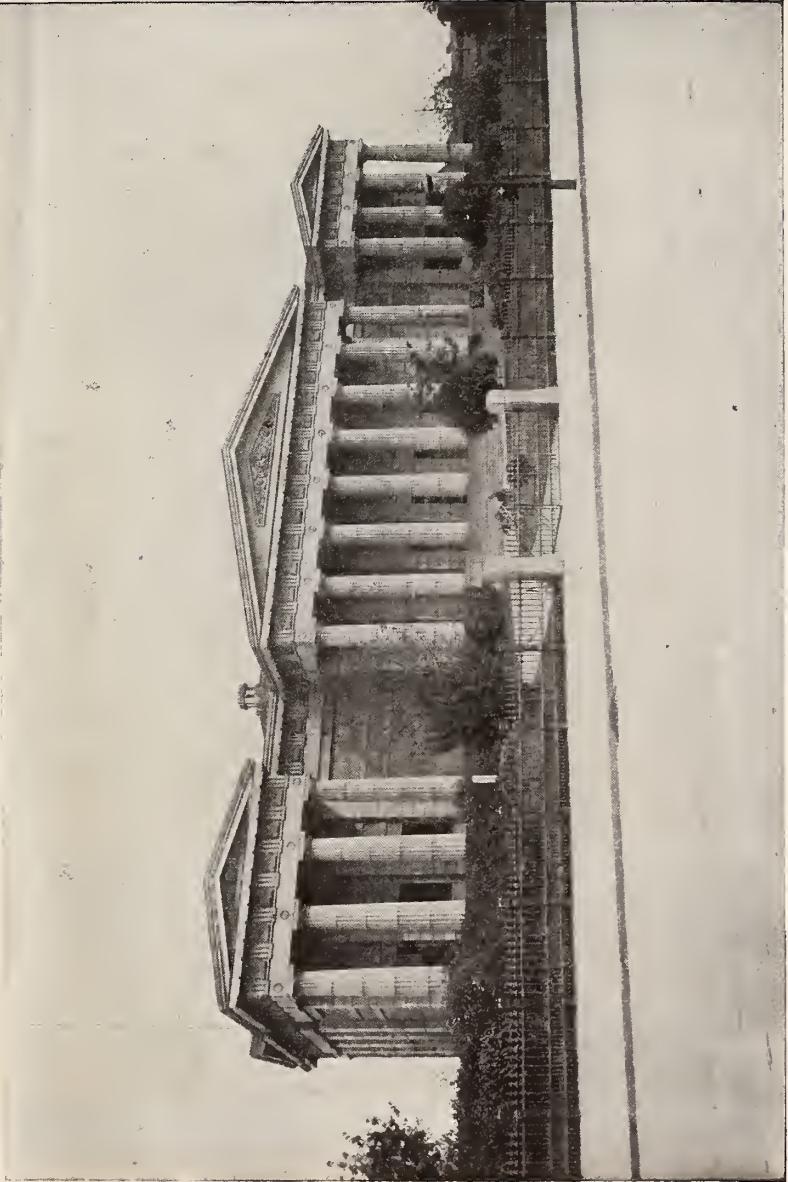
PENN TREATY MONUMENT

This plain little monument marks the "scite of the great elm tree" under which William Penn made his agreement with the Delaware Indians in 1682, a compact which was never signed and never broken. It is located in a small square in Kensington known as the William Penn Treaty Park.

TREATY ELM ON THE DELAWARE



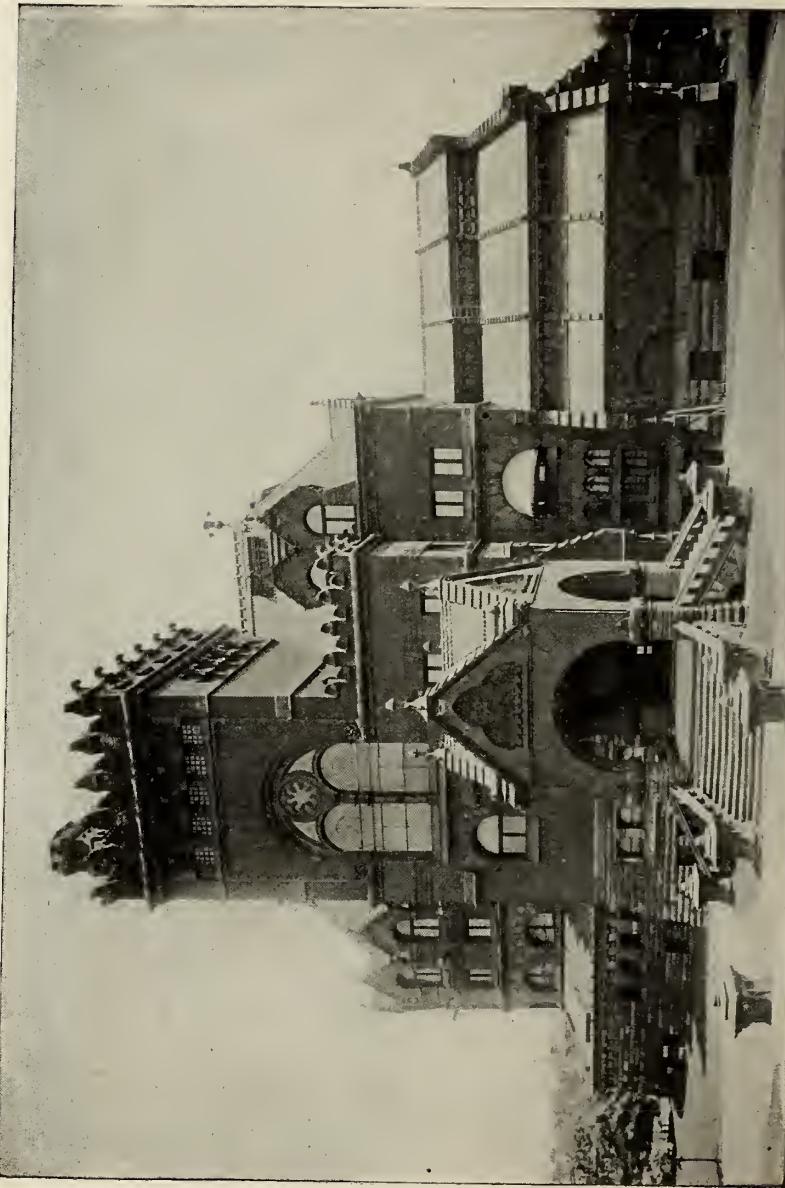
THE CURTIS BUILDING



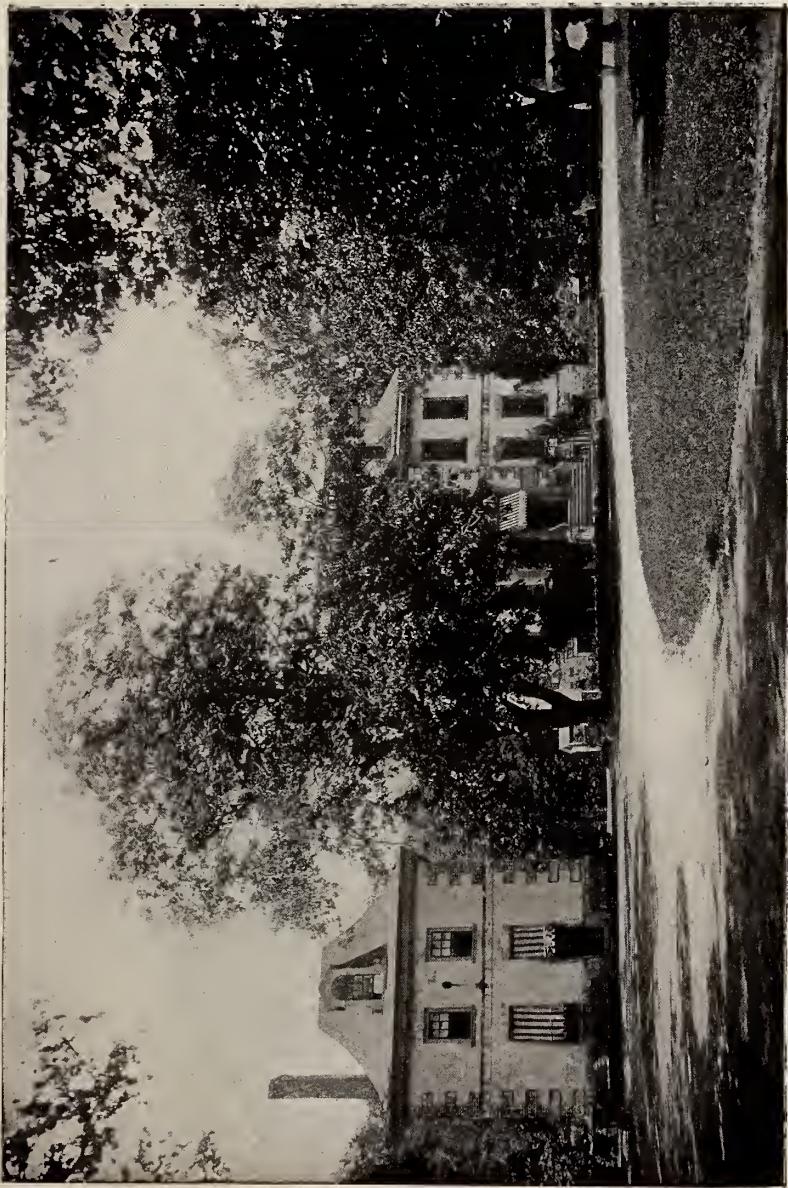
RIDGEWAY LIBRARY
A fine structure in Doric Greek style at Broad and Carpenter Streets. Founded by the will of Dr. James Rush and given the maiden name of his wife. Contains over 120,000 volumes.



"LITTLE QUAD," UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
A corner which strongly resembles some old English college view.



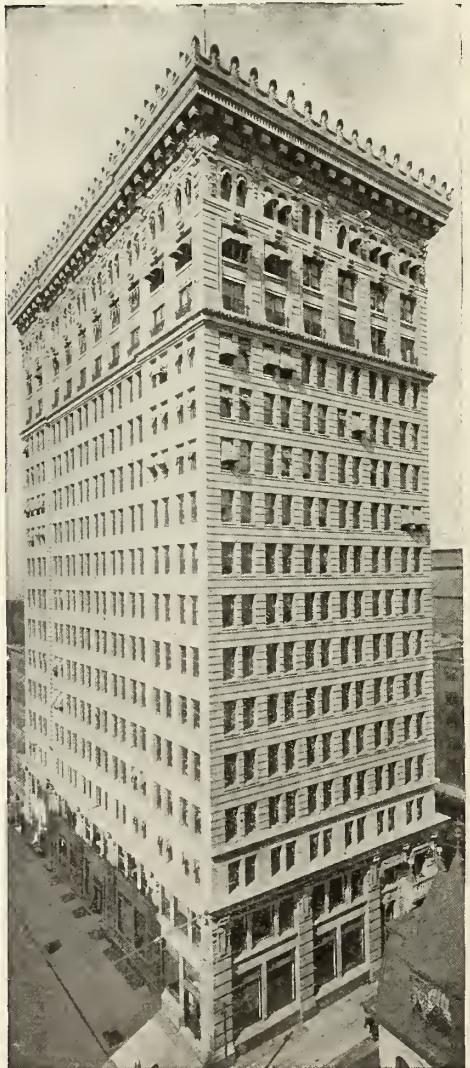
LIBRARY HALL, UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
A rich-looking edifice of red stone and brick. Contains over 150,000 bound volumes and 50,000 pamphlets
for the needs of the University.



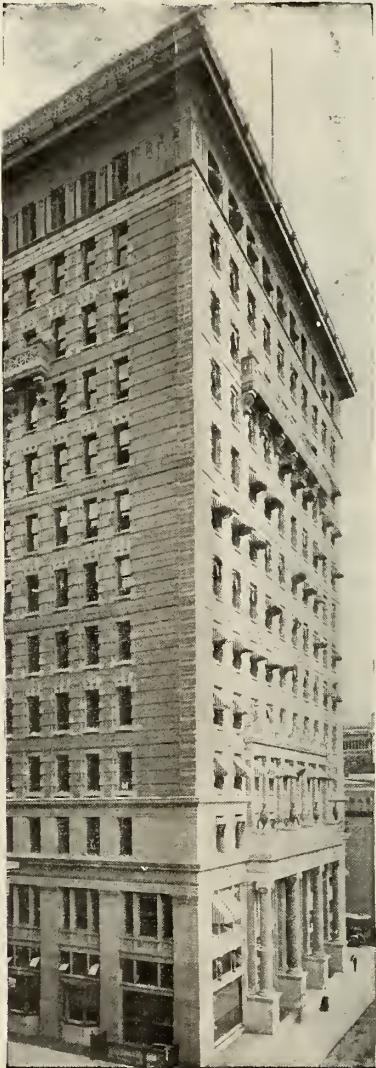
ARNOLD MANSION, FAIRMOUNT PARK
Purchased by Benedict Arnold at the outbreak of the Revolution. Confiscated when his treason became known. Occupied by Baron Steuben during 1781-2.



GATEWAY TO DORMITORY, UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA



Pennsylvania Building
15th and Chestnut Streets.



Stephen Girard Building
12th Street, below Market.



Fidelity Mutual Life Association
United Gas Improvement Company Building
Broad and Arch Streets.

SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS



FINE EXAMPLES OF BUSINESS ARCHITECTURE

Land Title Building
Broad and Chestnut Streets

Fidelity Mutual Life Association
Broad Street, above Arch



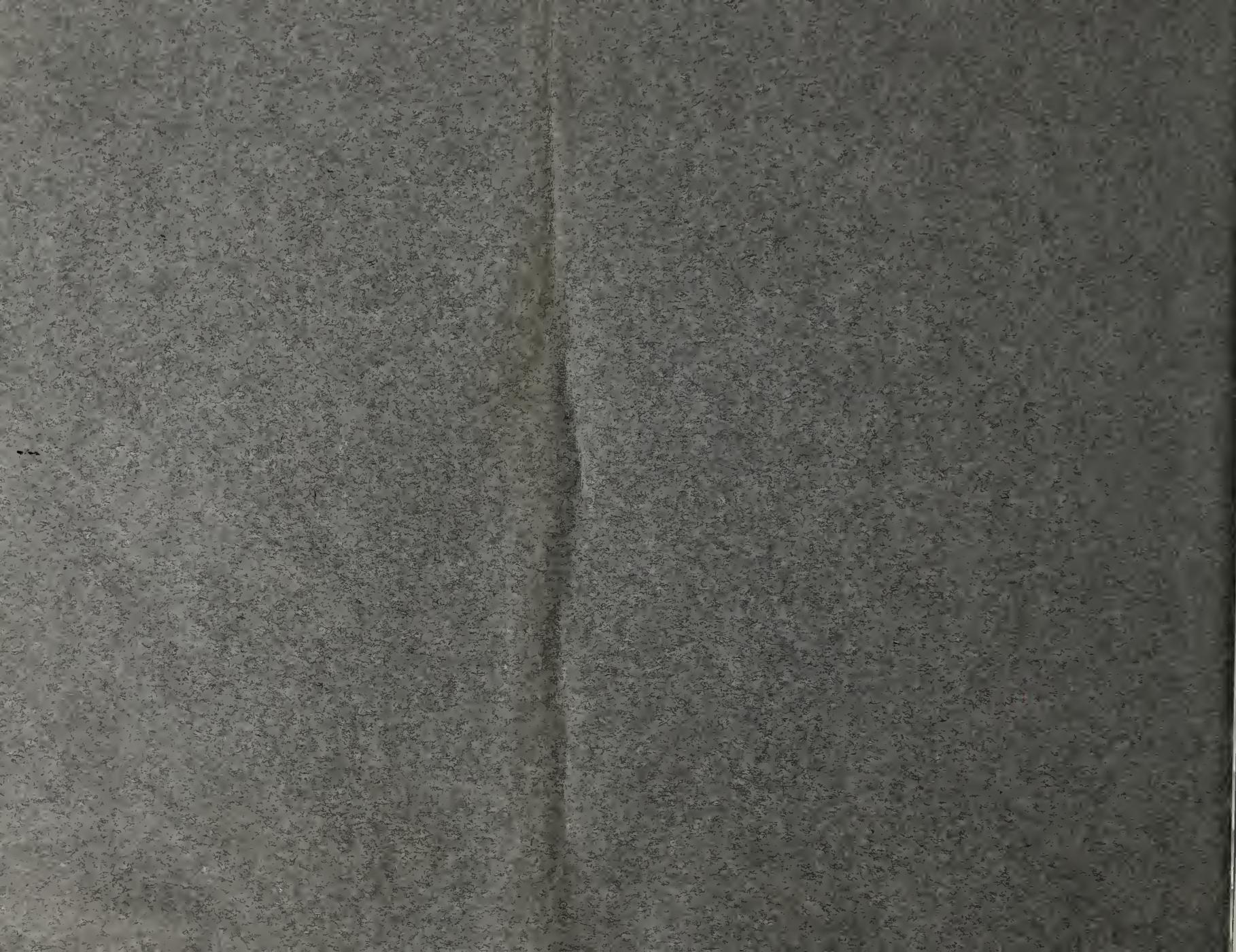
Hotel Adelphia

TWO MODERN HOTEL BUILDINGS



The Bellevue-Stratford







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